

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 5, 2015, 6:00 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members John Warshow, Chris Martin, and Andrew Perchlik; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Martin Covered Bridge Project Manager Rich Phillips; Visitor Jackie Rieke

At 6:00 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Andrew Perchlik

Onion River Campground: Jackie Rieke came to address the Selectboard regarding her plans for the campground. She will be re-opening the campground this year and would like to hold events, possibly involving the community. She wanted to check with the Board about whether there are any regulations or permits needed for gatherings. There are no town permits required for occasional events. Commercial activity requires a zoning permit but the campground is already a commercial use. The events sound like a normal campground operation, but the Board advised her to check with the Zoning Administrator if a change of use is planned. Chris advised her to be mindful of parking issues, and to put up signs warning of turning traffic. He advised her to be mindful of the neighbors. Bobbi gave her a copy of the zoning regulations.

Martin Covered Bridge: The Board received a complaint from Tom Rus about tree planting at the bridge property. Rich has explained to him that the trees are replacing trees that were there before, and trees will be planted along the stream bank for stabilization. The Selectboard has also heard concerns from the Friends of the Winooski that he was aggressive towards the person who delivered the trees. The Selectboard has asked the Sheriff to send a deputy to be present for the tree planting on Thursday.

Gym Lights: Jacob Gouge, who retrofitted the lights in 2011, suggested to Bobbi that covers may have to be custom-made for the lights. The Board will research whether it would be less expensive to buy new fixtures with shrouds.

Cemetery Funds Investment Policy: Bobbi explained that in the past, clear records were not maintained about how much of the cemetery funds were perpetual care and how much are operating funds. She is going through the town reports to try to recreate the records from the 1990's and earlier. When she has done the research, the Board can adopt an investment policy

Gym Use Policy: The Board reviewed the building policy in response to concerns that kids are getting off the bus at the Old Schoolhouse Common, with no supervision for long periods of time, and disturbing the tenants. Rules will be posted for gym use.

FEMA Disaster Declaration: The Board signed the grant documents for the windstorm that occurred in December. FEMA and the State will reimburse the town for expenses involved in cutting trees and cleaning up brush. The reimbursement rate will be 92.5%.

Tax Sale: Bobbi gave the delinquent list to the Selectboard. The tax sale will be held on July 7th. The Board authorized Bobbi to bid the minimum amount on behalf of the town.

Loan for Truck: The Board executed a note from Union Bank at 1.45% interest, in the amount of \$110,000. The truck was ordered in January and should be delivered soon.

Route 2 VTrans Survey: The Board looked at survey of the Route 2 right of way adjacent to the fire station, the Wooster cemetery, and the Martin Bridge Park. They did not see any obvious errors.

Town Forest Update: Andrew obtained a map of the old Town Forest on Depot Hill, from the spatial analysis lab at UVM. The general shape matches what is in the file, but differs from the tax maps.

Logging Bid at Stranahan: Chris spoke with the county forester about the bid. The forester will check the logger's references. The forester is willing to come to a Selectboard meeting to discuss the property if the Board wants.

Andrew stated that he feels like the Stranahan committee needs to make decisions, even if they have to take a vote. Chris stated that the Vermont Land Trust required a forest management plan because they expected it to be followed; otherwise there would be no point in having a plan. He noted that the county forester was very conservative when he made the plan, but we haven't followed the plan's recommendations.

Fire Department: Tim Morris attended the meeting to ask the Selectboard whether or not we should encourage people to sign up for VT Alert. He also asked the Selectboard to consider installing a transfer switch at the Old Schoolhouse Common, so that we could get a portable generator if we needed to use the building for an emergency shelter.

Green Up: The Board questioned why the Town accepts tires for less money than we have to pay to dispose of them. They also questioned whether we have to pay to dispose of the trash (we do), and what the money that we send to the Green Up organization pays for.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll. They approved the minutes of the April 7 and April 21 minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the May 5, 2015 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
